

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed October 17, 2003 has been received and the Examiner's comments carefully reviewed. Claim 15 has been allowed. Applicants thank the Examiner for this notification. Claims 1 and 3-15 are currently pending. Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 3-6, 8 and 10-14 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Perrone et al. (U.S. Patent 6,626,705). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 1 recites a system for use with jack assemblies having card edge contacts. The system includes a plurality of mount apparatus mounted at the rear of a chassis. The mount apparatus have front electrical contacts configured for contacting the card edge contacts of the jack assemblies.

Claim 10 recites a system for use with jack assemblies having card edge contacts. The system includes a plurality of mount apparatus mounted in a chassis. The mount apparatus have electrical contacts for mating with the card edge contacts of the jack assemblies.

Perrone does not disclose a mount apparatus configured to receive jacks having a card edge. Rather, Perrone discloses a jack module 22 having a jack mount 24 for holding a plurality of jacks 26, 28. The jacks have connector pins that extend from the rear of the jack 26, 28. The connector pins interconnect to the jack module 22. Perrone does not disclose mating card edge contacts.

At least because Perrone does not meet the structural limitations of a mount apparatus having electrical contacts configured to contact or mate with card edge contacts of a jack assembly, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1 and 10, and depend claims 3-6, 8, and 11-14 are patentable.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner objected to claims 7, 9, and 11-14, but indicated that claims 7, 9, and 11-14 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form incorporating all the

limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 15 has been allowed.
Applicants thank the Examiner for this notification.

SUMMARY

It is respectfully submitted that each of the presently pending claims (claims 1 and 3-15) is in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is requested. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the below-listed telephone number if it is believed that prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby.

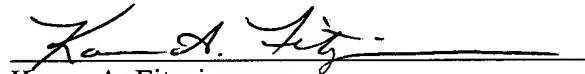
Although certain arguments regarding patentability are set forth herein, there may be other arguments and reasons why the claimed invention is patentably distinct. Applicants reserve the right to raise these arguments in the future.

Respectfully submitted,



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